

(c) a polynucleotide having at least about 90% sequence identity to the polynucleotide of (a) or (b), wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

2. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1, which comprises a polynucleotide having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

3. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1, which comprises a polynucleotide having at least about 90% sequence identity to a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide has EDG8 biological activity.

4. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1, which comprises a polynucleotide having at least about 95% sequence identity to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

B1 5. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1, which comprises a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide has EDG8 biological activity.

6. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

7. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide encodes the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide has EDG8 biological activity.

8. The polynucleotide of claim 1, which is a DNA or RNA, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

9. A fragment of the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

10. An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

16. A process for producing the polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 comprising: culturing a host cell of claim 11 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide from the culture, wherein the polypeptide has EDG8 biological activity.

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17. A process for producing cells capable of expressing a polypeptide comprising genetically transfecting or transforming cells with the vector of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide has EDG8 biological activity.

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18. A process for producing a human EDG8 polypeptide or a fragment thereof comprising: culturing a host cell of claim 11 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide from the culture, wherein the polypeptide has EDG8 biological activity.

19. An isolated polynucleotide which is a complement of a polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with EDG8 biological activity.

B3
32. A pharmaceutical composition containing a polynucleotide encoding a human EDG8 or a fragment thereof encoding for a peptide with EDG8 biological activity.

In the Specification:

Amend the specification on page 7, lines 28-30, as follows:

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Fig.1A (SEQ ID NO:1 and 2): The nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence of human EDG8. The deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) is shown below the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) with the nucleotide positions indicated on the left.

Amend the specification on page 8, lines 6-13, as follows:

B5
Fig.1C (SEQ ID NOs. 2-9): Alignment of the amino acid sequence of human EDG8 with the other EDG-family members. The amino acid sequence (amino acids positions 1 through 418) of human EDG8 (accession number AC011461, SEQ ID NO:2) is